

10/581443

AP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 02 JUN 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
SUGIMOTO et al. )  
Application Number: To Be Assigned )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: DAMPING MATERIAL AND DAMPING METAL )  
SHEET )  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. KOBE.0094 )

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants have amended the claims in order to eliminate some of the multiple dependent claims in accordance with standard U.S. practice. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: